Date 5-14-07

Amendments to House Bill No. 2 Bill No. #82 3rd Reading Copy

Requested by Senator Carol Williams

For the Senate Finance and Claims Committee

Prepared by PAT GERVAIS May 14, 2007 (2:45pm)

1. Page A-2, line 10.

Strike: "1,000,000 1,000,000" [general fund FY08 and FY09]

Insert: "597,500 747,500" [general fund FY08 and FY09]

2. Page A-2, line 16.

Strike: "0 0" [general fund FY08 and FY09]

Insert: "d. Self-Help Law Program (Restricted/Biennial/OTO)

252,500 252,500" [general fund FY08 and FY09]

3. Page A-2, line 27.

Strike: "150,000" [general fund FY08]
Insert: "300,000" [general fund FY08]

4. Page A-3.

Following: line 25

Insert: "Funds in Self-Help Law Program may be used only to provide and support the development, maintenance, and availability of self-help legal forms and instructions regarding civil legal proceedings in Montana's courts; the development of curriculum and materials suitable for classes and clinics about civil legal proceedings and forms; the development, updating, and provision of information and training materials for judges, clerks of court, other court officers, judicial branch employees, and volunteers about self-help legal resources and how to assist self-represented litigants in a manner that is impartial, facilitates effective and efficient court operations, and does not constitute providing direct legal representation; the establishment and maintenance of multimedia materials that provide information about Montana's civil laws, courts, rules, legal forms, and available legal resources; coordination, recruitment, and training of volunteer attorneys to provide legal advice and direct legal representation to persons with civil legal needs who are unable to pay for those services; and coordination and cooperation with other access to justice efforts."

- END -

Explanation - This amendment reduces funding for drug treatment courts by \$402,500 in FY 2008 and \$252,500 in FY 2009 (\$655,000 for the biennium) and provides \$505,000 general fund for the biennium as a restricted, biennial, one-time-only appropriation (\$252,500 a year) to support a self-help law program (including 1.00 FTE program administrator) and increases one-time-only general fund support for district court safety and security items from \$150,000 to \$300,000 for the biennium (FY 2008, only). This funding is shifted among items in the judicial branch.